

Southern California Congregational Conference

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February 9, 1940.

To our Southern California Pastors

Dear Friends:

Again, there are several matters to be brought to your attention, and in which I know you will be interested. So, here they are as briefly as I can tell them:

1. REPORT ON 1939 GIVING. You will be happy to know that the final report at Vanston, including both the gifts through the Conference Office and amounts sent directly to the Boards on budgeted items, amounted to \$50,080.00, a gain of \$4,130.00 over the total for 1938, which is a nine per cent gain, by far the largest percentage gain of any Conference, with the exception of one small state. While we closed the year with a small deficit of \$326.00 in the Conference account, it was because we sent the American and Home Boards practically the whole increase, or nearly \$4,000.00 more than in 1938. Need we try to express to our pastors and members who have worked so helpfully, and have given so generously, our appreciation of the cooperation which has made this record possible?

2. NEEDS FOR 1940. The Conference budget for 1940 will be published in the March issue of the State Paper. It calls for a total of \$32,459.00. Largely because of a decrease in estimated receipts due to the condemnation of one of our income properties in Long Beach, we shall need a net increase in Conference receipts over 1939 of \$1,115.00 to balance our budget in 1940. In other words, we should raise our 1939 total for world-wide mission work nearly \$2,500.00 over the total of 1939 to secure the necessary increase for the Conference. We believe it can be done, which leads us to -

3. THE APPORTIONMENT GOALS FOR 1940. These are coming in splendidly, yet over half of our churches have yet to report. Some goals are less, some are more. We cannot give any comparative totals until the goals are all in. If your church has not sent its goal, will you see that it is done, and, if possible, that some advance is made over last year? A five per cent increase over 1939 would meet our needs; a ten per cent increase would enable us to take some much needed forward steps. We know you will do your best.

4. STATE PAPER NOTES should be in the Conference Office by Tuesday, February 13th, to be included in the March number. Again, may we ask that the notes may be as condensed as possible?

5. ABOUT 25 YEAR BOOK REPORTS ARE STILL MISSING. Please get them to our office at your earliest convenience, for you will wish the record of your church to appear in the 1939 General Council Year Book.

Hoping you are having a most happy start in the new year, and relying on your cooperation, I am

Sincerely yours,

EDWARD D. GAYLORD

SUPERINTENDENT

EDG/B.